

Amended Patent Claims

1. (original) A flue gas washer comprising a supporting construction for spray pipes for cleaning of at least one horizontally disposed droplet separator system which is formed by droplet separator packets supported on carriers, characterized in that the supporting construction (7) for the spray pipes (8) is disposed at or between the droplet separator packets (15).
2. (original) The flue gas washer according to claim 1, characterized in that the droplet separator packets (15) have reinforced end portions for the arrangement of the supporting construction (7).
3. (original) The flue gas washer according to claim 2, characterized in that the reinforced end portions (6) are formed in a box-like manner.
4. (currently amended) The flue gas washer according to claim 2~~or 3~~, characterized in that the reinforced end portions (6) are penetrated by at least one rod-like supporting member (9).

5. (original) The flue gas washer according to claim 4, 5 characterized in that a plurality of rod-like supporting members (9) are connected with one another by a spray pipe carrying element (10).

6. (currently amended) The flue gas washer according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~, characterized in that the rod-like supporting members (9) consist of several parts and have a connection point outside of the reinforced end portions (6).

7. (currently amended) The flue gas washer according to ~~one of the claims 4 to 6~~ claim 4, characterized in that one rod-like supporting member (9) or a plurality thereof extend upwardly and downwardly from the reinforced end portion (6).

8. (currently amended) The flue gas washer according to ~~one of the claims 4 to 7~~ claim 4, characterized in that a rod-like supporting member (9) is insertable into a reinforced end portion (6).

9. (original) The flue gas washer according to claim 1, characterized in that the supporting construction is formed by supporting members (16) which are disposed between adjacent droplet separator packets (15), respectively.

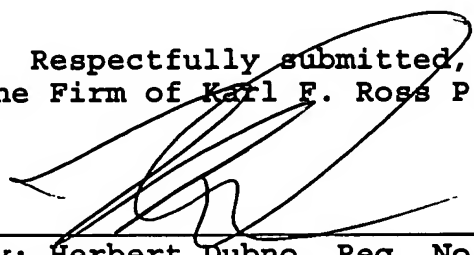
10. (original) The flue gas washer according to claim 9, characterized in that the supporting members (16) are connected to the separator packets (15) through flange connections (18).

11. (currently amended) The flue gas washer according to claim 9 ~~or 10~~, characterized in that the supporting members (16) carry the spray pipes (8) directly.

12. (currently amended) A supporting construction (7) for use in a flue gas washer (1) according to ~~one of the patent claims 1 to 11~~ claim 1.

This preliminary amendment is submitted to provide the cross reference of the present US phase of PCT/DE2002/003776 to the international application according to Rule 78, and to eliminate the multiple dependencies in the claims.

Respectfully submitted,
The Firm of Karl F. Ross P.C.



By: Herbert Dubno, Reg. No. 19,752
Attorney for Applicant

22 August 2005
5676 Riverdale Avenue Box 900
Bronx, NY 10471-0900
Cust. No.: 535
Tel: (718) 884-6600
Fax: (718) 601-1099

rg